

RENO BARREL RECYCLING
RICHARD KOZLOWSKI
LAURENE KOZLOWSKI
UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA AT RENO
AMSELCO EXPLORATION LABORATORIES
ALCATEL
NEVATECH INDUSTRIES, INC.
FINDLEY ADHESIVES
ABC PLATING
MUNICHEM CORPORATION
ADVANCED GRAPHIC DESIGNS
GERING COLORITE
THE INK COMPANY
GREAT WESTERN CHEMICALS
CAESAR'S TAHOE
LEAR FAN CORPORATION
HARRAH'S
TREASURE CHEST
MINWAX COMPANY, INC.
CHEMLINE INDUSTRIES, INC.
CARSONITE INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
H.S. CROCKER COMPANY, INC.
COFFMAN CONSTRUCTION, INC.

[illegible]

This Amended Administrative Order (Amended Order) is issued on this date to Reno Barrel Recycling, Richard Kozlowski, Laurene Kozlowski, University of Nevada at Reno, Amselco Exploration Laboratories, Alcatel, Nevatech Industries, Inc., Findley Adhesives, ABC Plating, Munichem Corporation, Advanced Graphic Designs, Gering Colorite, The Ink Company, Great Western Chemicals, Caesar's Tahoe, Harrah's, Treasure Chest, Lear Fan Corporation, Minwax Company, Inc., Chemline Industries, Inc., Carsonite International Corporation, H.S. Crocker Company, Inc., and Cofman Construction, Inc. (Respondents) pursuant to the authority vested in the President of the United States by the Comprehensive

Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, 42 U.S.C. Section 9601 et seq., Pub. L. 99-499 (CERCLA), and specifically Section 106(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. Section 9606(a), and delegated to the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) by Executive Order No. 12580, January 23, 1987, 52 Federal Register 2923, and further delegated to the Assistant Administrator for Solid Waste and Emergency Response and to the EPA Regions by U.S. EPA Delegation Nos. 14-14-A and 14-14-B. By copy of this Amended Order the State of Nevada has been notified of the issuance of this Amended Order as required by Section 106(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. Section 9606(a). Respondents Reno Barrel Recycling, Richard Kozlowski and Laurene Kozlowski hereinafter are referred to jointly and/or severally as "RBR."

This Amended Order requires each Respondent to undertake and complete emergency removal activities to abate an imminent and substantial endangerment to the public health or welfare or the environment that may be presented by the actual or threatened release of hazardous substances.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Based on available information, including the Administrative Record in this matter, U.S. EPA hereby finds:

1. The Reno Barrel Recycling (RBR) facility (the Site), is located approximately 17 miles north of Reno on South Reno Park Blvd. in Cold Springs, Nevada. For approximately six years prior to the issuance of Order No. 89-06, dated March 17, 1989, RBR had been in the business of receiving and processing empty drums for resale. While in operation, RBR also received drums containing hazardous substances and hazardous wastes.
2. The Site is approximately 150' by 300' and is located approximately 125' downhill from a 50-unit mobile home park in a rural area near Reno, Nevada. All stormwater run-off from the Site flows into White Lake.
3. RBR was the current owner and operator of the Site at the time of Order No. 89-06 (see Finding 6, below) and owned and operated the Site at the time of the release or threatened release of a hazardous substance. RBR accepted hazardous substances for transport to the Site, which was selected by RBR. Drums containing hazardous substances bearing shipping labels and/or hazardous waste labels were found at the Site from the University of Nevada at Reno Chemistry Department, Amselco Exploration Laboratories, Alcatel, Nevatech Industries, Inc., Findley Adhesives, ABC Plating, Munichem Corporation, Advanced Graphic Designs, Gering Colorite, The Ink Company, Great Western Chemicals, Caesar's Tahoe, Treasure Chest, Lear Fan Corporation, Minwax Company, Inc., Chemline Industries, Inc., Carsonite Inter-

national Corporation, H.R. Crocker Company, Inc., and Coffman Construction, Inc. In addition, documentation obtained from Harrah's and RBR indicates that Harrah's contracted with RBR to dispose of drums containing hazardous substances.

4. The State of Nevada, on notice that the Site may pose a threat to public health or welfare or the environment, referred the Site to the EPA Superfund Removal Program for a Preliminary Assessment (PA).

5. On October 20, 1988, the EPA Site Inspection Team found in excess of 3000 drums on site, many of which were precariously stacked and in various states of deterioration. Field analysis of several samples collected at this time indicated the presence of a variety of hazardous substances. Based upon these observations, EPA issued verbal Notice of Federal Interest to several Respondents on that same day. Later that afternoon, a group of Respondents provided 24-hour security. Site remediation by a group of Respondents continued haltingly until early March 1989 when progress ceased.

6. On March 17, 1989, EPA issued Order No. 89-06 (the "Order") to the same twenty-three (23) Respondents named in this Amended Order. As a result of the original Order and several letters sent from EPA to the Respondents urging compliance with the Order, work again continued haltingly until December 1990. On that date work again came to a halt. Although certain Respondents complied in part with the original Order, the removal action compelled by that Order never was completed. Each of the tasks described in this Amended Order is within the scope of the removal action compelled by the original Order. Therefore, until the work required by the Amended Order is completed, each Respondent remains in violation of the original Order.

7. On January 22, 1991, EPA and EPA's Technical Assistance Team (TAT) conducted an assessment of the Site. The purpose of this visit was to determine the current condition of the Site and to determine the need for immediate EPA action. EPA and TAT observed the following conditions on that date:

-- Access to the property was unrestricted. The Site was not fenced and no security was provided. The previously erected barrier tape was missing or damaged in several locations. The only remaining structure on the Site consisted of a severely fire damaged trailer which shows evidence of interior chemical contamination.

- The amount of spillage observed on the Site had increased significantly since EPA's prior visit to the Site. Two dead field mice were lying in the midst of a release from one of the drums on the Site. These mice appeared to have died after coming into contact with the release.

- The previously constructed Site run-off containment system was breached. This condition could allow hazardous substances to reach White Lake during periods of heavy run-off or on-site spillage.

- The on-site trailer appeared to be contaminated with hazardous substances. Evidence of such contamination included the presence in the trailer of several chemical containers, extensive staining and a small quantity of white powder.

- Clustered in what EPA believed to be compatibility groups were approximately two hundred and twenty-seven (227) fifty-five (55) gallon drums. The drums reportedly contained the following:

- 50 drums of hard epoxy resin
- 150 drums of liquid epoxy resin
- 15 drums of liquid/solid resin
- 20 drums of contaminated protective clothing
- 17 drums of labpacked chemicals
- 2 drums of domestic trash
- 14 drums of lead contaminated debris
- 5 empty drums
- 10 empty stainless steel drums
- 4 drums of collected samples

- EPA and TAT observed the following conditions of the approximately 227 drums described above:

-- Approximately six of the drums were found to be leaking. EPA concluded, based on the conditions of the drums, that the freezing temperatures experienced at the Site during the winter months had caused the barrels to leak. Many of the drums were placed directly on the ground, rather than on pallets, thus making them more susceptible to weathering and deterioration. Many of the drums were covered only with sheet plastic rather than a more appropriate drum lid, making them susceptible to leakage and spillage and vulnerable to varying weather conditions.

-- EPA inspected one labpack drum and found it contained incompatible materials. Specifically, this labpack contained materials with a pH of 13.4 and materials with a pH of 0.0.

-- EPA observed that the contents of one leaking drum had migrated approximately one hundred feet (100)' along a small on-site channel.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing Findings, U.S. EPA has concluded that:

1. The Reno Barrel Recycling Site is a "facility" as defined by Section 101(9) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. Section 9601(9).
2. Each Respondent is a "person" as defined by Section 101(21) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. Section 9601(21).
3. Each Respondent is a liable person under Section 107(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. Section 9607. Each Respondent is the present "owner or operator" of the facility, as defined by Section 101(20) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. Section 9601(20), or the "owner or operator" of the facility at the time of disposal of hazardous substances, or a person who arranged for disposal or transport for disposal of hazardous substances at the facility, or a person who accepted hazardous substances for transport to the facility selected by such person from which there is a release or threatened release of a hazardous substance.
4. Materials at the Site which include, but are not limited to, corrosives and flammables, are "hazardous substances" as defined by Section 101(14) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. Section 9601(14).
5. Increased spillage of hazardous substances observed on the Site by the OSC since the issuance of Order Number 89-06 constitutes an actual "release" as that term is defined in Section 101(22) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. Section 9601(22), and within the meaning of Section 9606(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. Section 9606(a).
6. The presence of hazardous substances at the Site and the potential for those substances to explode, ignite, or spill, resulting in air, soil or ground water contamination, constitutes a "release" or "threatened release" of a hazardous substance from the facility, as defined in Section 101(22) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. Section 9601(22), and within the meaning of Section 106(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. Section 9606(a).

Determinations

Based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Director, Hazardous Waste Management Division, EPA Region.9, has made the following determinations:

1. The actual or threatened release of a hazardous substance from the facility may present an imminent and substantial endangerment to the public health or welfare, or the environment.

2. The actions required by this Amended Order, if properly performed, are consistent with the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP), 40 C.F.R Part 300, and CERCLA; and are reasonable and necessary to protect the public health or welfare or the environment.

3. The conditions present at the facility (or Site) constitute a threat to public health or welfare or the environment based upon consideration of the factors set forth in the NCP at 40 C.F.R. Section 300.415(b). These factors include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. actual or potential exposure to nearby human populations, animals or the food chain from hazardous substances;

This factor is present at the Site due to the existence of at least six leaking drums and extensive areas of spillage and soil contamination. EPA took samples of some of the containers on the Site identified the presence of both flammable and corrosive materials.

- b. actual or potential contamination of drinking water supplies or sensitive ecosystems;

This factor is present at the Site due to the existence of significant areas of spillage and soil contamination in a sensitive arid environment. At least two field mice have died on the Site, apparently after coming into contact with some of the spilled material.

- c. hazardous substances in drums, barrels, tanks, or other bulk storage containers, that may pose a threat of release;

This factor is present at the Site due to the existence of approximately 227 55-gallon drums of waste. During the course of a Site investigation conducted by EPA on January 22, 1991, inspectors took four samples, one with a pH of 0.0, one with a pH of 13.4, one with a flashpoint of less than seven degrees fahrenheit (<7° F.), and one with a flashpoint of one hundred seventeen degrees fahrenheit (117° F). The two samples with the extreme pH range were both found in the same labpack drum. These hazardous substances are incompatible and it is inappropriate either to store or transport such materials in the same container.

- d. high levels of hazardous substances in soils largely at or near the surface that may migrate;

This factor is present at the Site due to the existence of significant areas of spillage of hazardous substances and soil contamination from drums which were identified as containing hazardous substances.

- e. weather conditions that may cause hazardous substances to migrate or be released;

This factor is present at the Site due to the existence of the annual temperature extremes. EPA has attributed the recently identified drum releases to the freezing conditions experienced during the winter at the Site. Daytime summer temperatures at the Site can reasonably be expected to exceed the flashpoint of the contents of many of the drums presently on the Site.

- f. threat of fire or explosion;

This factor is present at the Site due to the existence of a large number of drums on the Site which are thought to contain low flashpoint waste resins. Two samples collected had flashpoints of less than seven degrees fahrenheit (<7° F.) and one hundred seventeen degrees fahrenheit (117° F.), respectively. See also the above discussion under factor (e.) (weather conditions that may cause the release of hazardous substances).

- g. the unavailability of other appropriate Federal or State response mechanisms to respond to the release;

This factor supports the actions required by this Amended Order at the Site since neither the State of Nevada nor Washoe County have funds committed to perform the removal action at the Site.

AMENDED ORDER

Based upon the foregoing Findings, Conclusions and Determinations, and pursuant to Section 106(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. Section 9606(a), it is hereby ordered that each Respondent undertake the following actions under the direction of EPA's On-Scene Coordinator (OSC). With the exception of provision one (1), below, each Respondent may comply with each of the following Amended Order provisions individually, or as part of a group of Respondents. In the event a Respondent complies with a provision as part of a group, such Respondent shall so notify EPA.

- 1. Within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of this Amended Order, each Respondent shall provide notice, verbally or in writing, to U.S. EPA stating its ability and intention to comply with the terms of this Amended Order. Verbal notification must be followed in writing within five (5) calendar days of receipt of the Amended Order. In the event a Respondent fails to provide such notice, that Respondent shall be deemed not to have complied with the terms of this Amended Order.

2. By no later than February 19, 1991, each Respondent shall provide twenty-four (24) hour security at the Site which meets with EPA approval.
3. Each Respondent shall restrict access to the Site and shall not allow any materials, equipment or any other item to be removed from the Site without prior EPA approval.
4. Each Respondent shall retain a contractor qualified to undertake and complete the requirements of this Amended Order, and shall notify U.S. EPA of the name of such contractor. U.S. EPA retains the right to disapprove of any, or all, of the contractors and/or subcontractors retained by a Respondent. In the event U.S. EPA disapproves of a selected contractor, Respondent shall retain a different contractor to perform the work, and such selection shall be made within two (2) business days following U.S. EPA's disapproval.
5. Each Respondent shall complete the following scope of work according to the schedule specified for each task:
 - a. Proper transportation and either treatment or disposal of all containerized hazardous substances within forty-five (45) calendar days of the effective date of this Amended Order. All disposal shall be conducted in compliance with the EPA Off-Site Policy.
 - b. Excavation, transportation and disposal of all visibly contaminated soil within forty-five (45) calendar days of the effective date of this Amended Order. All disposal shall be conducted in compliance with the EPA Off-Site Policy.
 - c. Decontamination of the interior of the on-site trailer within 45 calendar days of the effective date of this Amended Order.
 - d. Design and implementation of a Post Clean-up Site Sampling Plan within 45 calendar days of the effective date of this Amended Order. The Plan shall include Clean-up criteria.
 - e. Implementation of the Post Clean-up Sampling Plan within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Amended Order.
 - f. Removal of any identified residual contamination which exceeds the clean-up criteria within 90 calendar days of the effective date of this Amended Order. All disposal shall be conducted in compliance with the EPA Off-Site Policy.
6. Each Respondent shall notify EPA at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of performing any on-site work.

7. All sampling and analysis shall be consistent with the "Removal Program Quality Assurance/Quality Control Interim Guidance: Sampling, QA/QC Plan and Data Validation," EPA OSWER Directive 9360.4-01, dated February 2, 1989.

8. All materials containing hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants removed pursuant to this Amended Order shall be disposed of or treated at a facility approved by the On-Scene Coordinator and in accordance with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (RCRA), 42 U.S.C. Section 9601, et seq., as amended, the U.S. EPA Off-Site Policy, and all other applicable Federal, State, and local requirements.

9. Each Respondent shall designate a Project Coordinator and inform the U.S. EPA of the identity of such Project Coordinator. To the greatest extent possible, the Project Coordinator shall be present on the Site or readily available during site work. The U.S. EPA has designated William E. Lewis as its On-Scene Coordinator. The On-Scene Coordinator and the Project Coordinator(s) shall be responsible for overseeing the implementation of this Amended Order. To the maximum extent possible, communication between the Respondent(s) and the U.S. EPA, and all documents, reports and approvals, and all other correspondence concerning the activities relevant to this Amended Order, shall be directed through the On-Scene Coordinator and the Project Coordinator(s).

10. The U.S. EPA and any Respondent each shall have the right to change their respective designated On-Scene Coordinator or Project Coordinator.

11. The U.S. EPA On-Scene Coordinator shall have the authority vested in an On-Scene Coordinator by the NCP, 40 CFR Part 300, as amended, including the authority to halt, conduct, or direct any work required by this Amended Order, or to direct any other response action undertaken by U.S. EPA or each Respondent at the Site.

12. EPA will grant no extension to the work schedule in this Amended Order without a demonstration of sufficient cause. Respondent shall request any extension in writing and no extension shall be deemed accepted unless approved, in writing, by U.S. EPA.

13. Each Respondent shall provide access to the Site to U.S. EPA employees, contractors, agents, and consultants at reasonable times, and shall permit such persons to be present and move freely in the area in order to conduct inspections, including taking photographs and videotapes of the Site, to do cleanup/stabilization work, to take samples to monitor the work under this Amended Order, and to conduct other activities which the U.S. EPA determines to be necessary.

14. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to prevent U.S. EPA from seeking legal or equitable relief to enforce the terms of this Amended Order 89-06a, the original Order 89-06, or from taking other legal or equitable action as it deems appropriate and necessary, or from requiring each Respondent in the future to perform additional activities pursuant to CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. Section 9601 et seq., or any other applicable law.

15. Copies of all records and files relating to hazardous substances found on the Site shall be retained for six years following completion of the activities required by this Amended Order and shall be made available to the U.S. EPA prior to the termination of the removal activities under this Amended Order.

16. Each Respondent shall submit a final report summarizing the actions taken to comply with this Amended Order. The report shall contain, at a minimum: identification of the Site, a description of the locations and types of hazardous substances encountered at the Site upon the initiation of work performed under this Amended Order, a chronology and description of the actions performed (including both the organization and implementation of response activities), a listing of the resources committed to perform the work under this Amended Order (including financial, personnel, mechanical and technological resources), identification of all items that affected the actions performed under the Amended Order and discussion of how all problems were resolved, a listing of quantities and types of materials removed from the Site, a discussion of removal and disposal options considered for any such materials, a listing of the ultimate destination of those materials, and a presentation of the analytical results of all sampling and analyses performed and accompanying appendices containing all relevant paperwork accrued during the action (e.g., manifests, invoices, bills, contracts, permits). The final report shall also include an affidavit from a person who supervised or directed the preparation of that report. The affidavit shall certify under penalty of law that based on personal knowledge and appropriate inquiries of all other persons involved in preparation of the report, the information submitted is true, accurate and complete to the best of the affiant's knowledge and belief. The report shall be submitted within thirty (30) days of completion of the work required by the U.S. EPA.

17. All notices, reports and requests for extensions submitted under the terms of this Amended Order shall be addressed and sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to:

Jeff Zelikson
Director, Hazardous Waste Management
Division
U.S. EPA, Region 9 (H-1)
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

A copy of each submittal shall be sent to:

Mr. William E. Lewis
On Scene Coordinator
U.S. EPA, Region 9 (H-8-3)
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

Any approval or decision of U.S. EPA regarding any submittal or modification to this Amended Order will be communicated to the appropriate Respondent by the Director, Hazardous Waste Management Division or his designee. No informal advice, guidance, suggestions, or comments by U.S. EPA regarding reports, plans, specifications, schedules, or any other matter, will relieve any Respondent of its obligation to obtain formal approvals as required by this Amended Order.

18. If any provision of this Amended Order is deemed invalid or unenforceable, the balance of this Amended Order shall remain in full force and effect.

19. This Amended Order shall be effective on February 18, 1990.

ACCESS TO ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

The Administrative Record supporting the selection of the response action for this Site is available for review on normal business days between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. in Office of Regional Counsel, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9, 75 Hawthorne Street, 16th Floor, San Francisco, California. Please contact Jean Rice, Assistant Regional Counsel, at (415) 744-1382 to review the Administrative Record. An index of the Administrative Record is attached hereto.

OPPORTUNITY TO CONFER

U.S. EPA provided each Respondent with an opportunity to confer upon the issuance of Order 89-06. Although all actions required by this Amended Order are within the scope of the actions specified in Order 89-06, EPA is providing each Respondent with an additional opportunity to confer on the actions required by this Amended Order 89-06a. Each Respondent may within twenty-four hours of receipt of this Amended Order request such a con-

ference with U.S. EPA. If any Respondent desires such a conference, the Respondent shall contact Jean Rice, Assistant Regional Counsel, at (415) 744-1382.


PENALTIES FOR NONCOMPLIANCE

Each Respondent is advised pursuant to Section 106(b) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. Section 9606(b), that willful violation or subsequent failure or refusal to comply with this Amended Order, or any portion thereof, may subject the Respondent to a civil penalty of no more than \$25,000 per day for each day in which such violation occurs, or such failure to comply continues. Failure to comply with this Amended Order, or any portion thereof, without sufficient cause may also subject the Respondent to liability for punitive damages in an amount three times the amount of any cost incurred by the government as a result of the failure of the Respondent to take proper action, pursuant to Section 107(c)(3) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. Section 9607(c)(3). In addition, U.S. EPA reserves its rights to pursue civil penalties or punitive damages for any violation of Order 89-06.

Each Respondent hereby is placed on notice that U.S. EPA will take any action that may be necessary in the opinion of U.S. EPA for the protection of public health and welfare and the environment, and each Respondent may be liable under Section 107(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. Section 9607(a), for the costs of those government actions.

IT IS SO ORDERED on this 14th day of February, 1991.
UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

By:


Jeff Zelikson, Director
Hazardous Waste Management Division
United States Environmental
Protection Agency Region 9

Attachment A to Amended Order

RENO BARREL RECYCLING
SUPERFUND REMOVAL SITE
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD INDEX

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 9

1235 MISSION STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94103

PREPARED BY:

BRENT MAIER
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD COORDINATOR

RENO BARREL RECYCLING
SUPERFUND REMOVAL SITE
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Emergency Response Cleanup Services Contracts (ERCS), Users' Manual, October 1983	10/01/83	Emergency Response Division Office of Emergency & Remedial Response, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington D.C.	65
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